



Rhode Island Small Business Award Winners

Small Business Person of the Year

Kathleen A. Jennings

President

Blue Sky Spaworks and Gallery, Inc.
Warwick, R.I.

SBA Young Entrepreneur of the Year (Rhode Island and New England)

Charles Kroll

President

Andera, Inc.
Providence, R.I.

SBA Rhode Island District Director Award

Frank Coletta

Host, Morning Sunrise

WJAR-TV (NBC-10)

Providence, R.I.

Jeffrey H. Butland Family-owned Business of the Year

Anthony DeMarco III

President

Eastland Food Products, Inc.
Cranston, R.I.

Joseph G.E. Knight Award for Entrepreneurial Excellence

Marion C. Filippi

CEO

Ballard's Inn
Block Island, R.I.

Financial Services Champion of the Year

Joseph P. Hindle

Vice President, Small Business Lending

Bank Rhode Island

Providence, R.I.

Women in Business Champion of the Year

Sixcia Devine

Small Business Training & Development Specialist

Center for Women & Enterprise

Providence, R.I.

Minority Small Business Champion of the Year

Karriem K. Kanston

Business Development Specialist

Coastway Credit Union

(formerly of Rhode Island Coalition for Minority
Investment)

Cranston, R.I.

Each year since 1963, the President of the United States has designated one week as National Small Business Week in recognition of the small business community's contribution to the American economy. Small businesses today, some 23 million strong, generate more than 57 percent of all sales in this country, 50 percent of our domestic private sector output, and about 55 percent of all innovations. Small businesses also lead the nation in job creation, providing approximately two-thirds of all new jobs.

2006 Rhode Island Salute to Small Business Awards Luncheon
Wednesday, May 10, 12:00 p.m.

Quidnessett Country Club, North Kingstown, Rhode Island

For more information visit www.sba.gov/ri